

Virtual MPF expands services

vMPF provides reservists access to personnel info anytime, anywhere

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas (AFPC) — The Air Force expanded the capability of the virtual Military Personnel Flight (vMPF) Feb. 2 to include Guard and Reserve members. This expansion provides speed and convenience for those members not stationed near a military base.

"The vMPF update and the Air Reserve Personnel Center Customer Support Center and Web site enhancements keep us moving forward in a continuous effort toward meeting our customer service goals," said Rose Weinrich, ARPC director of customer service.

Last month alone, the vMPF Web site received more than 200,000 hits. This release, the third of the new vMPF, adds the following applications for the Guard and Reserve:

Duty status history: allows service members to get a listing of current and previous duty information, including effective dates, Air Force Specialty Codes and duty titles.

Reenlistment eligibility inquiry: allows members to see if they are eligible to re-enlist or eligible for waiver consideration.

Selected Reenlistment Bonus (SRB) eligibility: determines if a member is eligible for an SRB and in what zone.

Proof of service: allows members to print their proof of service letter, a document needed by the department of veterans affairs when purchasing a home.

Point credit history: gives members the capability to view the points awarded toward retirement.

"Guard and Reserve members are able to access the service modules where or whenever there is an Internet connection; members can now check their total retirement points," said SMSgt. Deborah Fuqua, Air Force Reserve Command, Robins AFB, Ga. "They can also print an authorized copy of their service history to prove eligibility for benefits."

"This is a great day for Reserve and Guard members," said SMSgt.

Melody Mohigh of the Center's Distance Learning Branch, who is also a reservist. "These services, which will expand in future releases, allow those unit reservists and IMAs who live far from their unit to have access to their personnel records from

their homes."

In November 2000, the vMPF became a hit at the Worldwide Personnel Conference when it introduced a fast, convenient, accurate, efficient and secure way to conduct personnel business from

— See **vMPF** on Page 2

Annual tour requests due to ARPC by May 15

All annual tour requests must be received by ARPC no later than May 15.

This is in compliance with a directive from Maj. Gen. James Sherrard, Chief of the Air Force Reserve, to have all AT orders published by the end of May to ensure adequate funds are available to cover requirements. ARPC will not process AT requests after the

May 15 deadline, except for IMAs newly gained, said Dave Gallop, director of financial management.

IMAs should check with their program manager for specific deadlines within their command. A listing of program managers is available on the ARPC Web site at www.arpc.org.

Inside this issue

2 CCM focuses on recruiting, retention, family

3 McNeil reflects on opportunity, hope

NOTE: Due to limited submissions, this Update consists of only eight pages.

Read the Air Reserve Personnel Update on the ARPC Web site at www.arpc.org

LOD criteria revisited

By MSgt. Andrew Molamphy
Chief, quality force management

Recent legislative changes to the Line of Duty, or LOD, program are the inclusion of heart attacks and strokes in the performance of inactive duty for training, or IDT, and the provision to cover members who are injured or become ill while performing duty for which they are receiving pay or compensation.

The objective of the LOD is to provide assistance to Reserve members injured or who become ill in performance of their duties while on active duty orders or performing IDTs, to include performing military burial services.

The LOD determination is based on whether the injury or illness occurred while the member was in a military duty status and whether or not the injury or illness is duty related. These determinations are initiated at the nearest military treatment facility, or MTF, on an AF Form 348 and include review by the LOD officer, immediate commander, and base legal office. A commander at the support group level makes the final

LOD determination.

The LOD should be started as soon as possible after the injury or illness occurs, but not later than 60 days after the incident. Civilian facilities should provide records to the nearest MTF in cases where the civilian facility provided the initial treatment.

A member with an "In Line of Duty Determination" who is not qualified for military duty as a result of an injury or illness may be extended on active duty orders. The extension is terminated when the member is returned to duty or the illness or injury cannot be improved by staying on active duty orders. Those electing not to stay on active duty or meeting other criteria may be entitled to incapacitation pay. A member with long-term injuries or illness, where the prognosis is unfavorable or unclear, may be referred to a medical evaluation board.

For more information on LOD/incapacitation pay or continuation of orders, contact the ARPC quality force management branch at 1-800-525-0102, Ext. 71342 or 71343, or email dpsspd1@arpc.denver.af.mil.

'Person for the job' - Sherrard

WASHINGTON – CMSgt. Cheryl Denise Adams became Air Force Reserve Command's new Command Chief Master Sergeant Feb. 15.



Chief Adams

"I was immediately impressed with Chief Adams," said Maj. Gen. James Sherrard, commander of Air Force Reserve Command and chief of Air Force Reserve. "She is a very dynamic person, who I know will take care of my enlisted force," said Sherrard. "I have every confidence that she is the person for the job."

Adams is the command's third command chief since it became a major command in 1997. Prior to becoming the CCM, she served as the command chief for the 932nd Airlift Wing at Scott Air Force Base, Ill.

The job involves advising the commander on matters influencing the health, morale, welfare and effective use of more than 74,000 reservists and active-duty members.

vMPF from Page 1

anywhere in the world, at any time of the day or night.

The vMPF provides user-friendly, self-service capability to all Air Force members allowing them to review, maintain, and initiate certain personnel actions from any Internet connected location.

In addition to the added services for Reserve and Guard members, the vMPF has taken on a new look, using a more traditional navigation scheme with a customized toolbar based on the person who logs in.

Continuous improvements are being made to the vMPF and additional services will be brought on-line in increments. The fourth increment is projected to be released in June 2001, shortly after the modernized Personnel Data System is operational. It will feature an awards and decorations print-out that actually depicts each person's ribbon rack as it should look on the uniform. It will also include additional personal data

for Reserve and Guard members.

The benefits of the system are just now beginning to be recognized by Air Force members in the field. Much like electronic banking and automated teller machines, it will take time before everyone realizes the convenience of these new automated services, but once they do, they're hooked.

"I haven't been inside a bank in nearly 10 years, so being able to conduct personnel business on-line will be another convenient, time-saving tool for me," said Col. Nellie Riley, chief of AFPC's Field Activities Division.

"Imagine being able to have access to services when the 'regular' MPF is closed, or when you're TDY, but your records are back at your home station. Better yet, just imagine it's Sunday morning and you're at home in your pajamas having coffee and, at the same time, completing your initial retirement briefing on-line!"

Riley pointed out that vMPF services become even more convenient when a member is at a remote location like Camp Red Cloud, at a geographically separated unit miles from an MPF like Moron, Spain, on a hilltop at RAF Croughton, or at the embassy in Beijing.

"This is just the beginning of the vMPF services we plan to offer all Air Force members, active duty, Guard and Reserve," Riley said. "It's in the infancy stage now, but it's growing quickly with 100 applications expected to be on-line by the end of this year."

For additional information about the vMPF, visit the knowledge management Web site at www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/km.

For more information about the new applications, contact the HQ Air Reserve Personnel Center at (800) 525-0102 or the Air Force Personnel Center Call Center at (800) 558-1404.

McNeil reflects on opportunity, hope

by Maj. Tom Deall
Chief of public affairs

From a "sit in" at a discount store in Greensboro, N.C., to a seat at the Pentagon, retired Air Force Reserve Maj. Gen. Joseph McNeil spoke of having the unique opportunity of seeing the nation grow to one of opportunity and hope at a Black History Month luncheon in Aurora, Colo.

Traveling to Colorado from New York to be with "family," McNeil reflected on his now-famous sit in and the work and sacrifice of so many people, some of whom died in their fight for equality.

"As a 17 year old, I was involved in a sit in," said McNeil. "In the 1960s, we had racial segregation that was established by law and it came about in cruel and inhumane ways."

McNeil talked about a time when getting a hamburger at a fast-food restaurant was not possible for Black Americans. He recalled the first time he was directly affected by racism when his dog was hit by a car. Being concerned for his dog, as any young boy would, he went to see a veterinarian with his father. His hope was quickly dashed as the doctor said he could not treat a "colored dog."

But simply reflecting on the negative aspects of racism can drain a lot of valuable energy. Instead, McNeil looks to the many positives associated with America. For example, after demanding to be served at the discount store with three of his college friends, he was approached by an older white woman.

She walked up to one of the young men and said she was disappointed. She then said, "Do you know why I'm disappointed?" When he politely answered no, she said, "I'm disappointed because it took you so long."

Following the sit in, which lasted three hours causing an early store closure and great confusion among the store management and local police, the peaceful show of intolerance began to grow. The next day the number of sit in participants increased to 19. By day three, the number increased to 85 and by week's end, the number grew to more than 400 people.

More importantly, the peaceful demonstration extended outside of North Carolina to cities such as Hampton, Va., and Nashville, Tenn.

McNeil emphasized that he and his friends got a lot of notice for the sit in. But it's important to note that there were many other people who risked physical abuse, being jailed and having their social life destroyed. In all too many instances, people lost their lives.

As a result of the sit in and many other peaceful demonstrations, the Equal Rights Act was passed in 1964. It was an act, McNeil said, that not only benefited blacks, but women and other minorities as well.

"The story of our sit in and the actions of others is not Black history, but American History and it's a history of struggle," said McNeil. "My effort wasn't one of integration, but one of opportunity to learn."

According to McNeil, the sit in was both planned and spontaneous. He said that the four friends had talked about taking action for several months, but the day it happened was spontaneous. He said that his actions served to help him in activities such as survival/prisoner of war training. Taking a stand taught him about service not associated with pay, but because it's the right thing to do.

McNeil emphasized that service to country was an important part of his personal development.

"As a general officer, I was very proud to wear the Air Force blue and serve my country," said McNeil. "I was proud to be an extension of your trust to safeguard our kids."

McNeil focused on the importance of looking to the future saying he didn't want his kids to grow up in a segregated society. He said that segregation is an economic problem that needs attention.

When reflecting on his personal success in the midst of great challenge, McNeil said he owed a lot to people who came before him.

"I am not and never have been bitter," said McNeil. "However, I have experienced periods of disappointment. But there is always hope and you have to stay engaged to bring about change. The

Tuskegee Airmen sacrificed for me and I took risks to sacrifice for others. It is all part of a continuum toward positive change."

In defining how he believes change comes about, he reflected on four key aspects. He said that we have to emphasize family, especially the structure of an extended family to forge a country of caring.

"We have to build on the foundation of believing in a higher being and reestablishing church as an important part of everyone's life. We need to be a part of something to help us establish our basic values and morality," said McNeil.

He continued by saying, America must turn to its political leaders for laws that break down the walls that still exist today. "We need to form a Congress that understands diversity and faith."

Finally, he said America needs to create a culture of tolerance and understanding.

"We are clearly the greatest country in the world and yet we promote the wrong models for children," McNeil said. "Where the media promotes people of questionable lifestyles, there are thousands of people who are ignored who live model lives day after day."

He concluded by saying there is no single answer. "However, one place to begin is simply by respecting others and learning how to get along."

"Respect goes a long way toward solving the problems of today," said McNeil. "We're not a perfect society, but we're continuously working on it."

Of the four young men who staged the sit in, McNeil is the manager of the New York Flight Standards District Office for the Federal Aviation Administration; Franklin McCain is a retired salesman; Ezell Blair, Jr., is retired and lives in New Bedford, Mass.; and David Richmond died in 1992.



'The Tuskegee Airmen sacrificed for me and I took risks to sacrifice for others. It is all part of a continuum toward positive change.'

Maj. Gen. Joseph McNeil
Retired Air Force Reserve

Briefs

WOTS password security

The first time individual mobilization augmentees, or IMAs, enter the Web Order Transaction System, or WOTS, they must use a default password which consists of their Social Security Number followed by their date of rank.

The system immediately prompts the individual to change their password to something unique known only to them. The password must consist of at least eight characters, but no more than 16, and be a combination of letters and at least one number or special character.

For security purposes, passwords are required to be changed every 90 days, according to Air Force Instruction 33-223, paragraph 2.6.

IMAs do not have to remember to log on to WOTS every 90 days for the sole purpose of changing their password; however, if it has been more than 90 days since the password was established, the user will be prompted to change their password the next time they log on to the system.

IMAs who forget their passwords must contact their program manager/Reserve administration staff at their major command to have their password manually reset to the original default. ARPC staff does not have the capability of retrieving members' unique passwords.

A listing of program managers and key Reserve points of contact is available on the ARPC Web site at www.arpc.org. There is also a link to the listing at the top of the order/travel page, or from the WOTS log on screen where users are prompted to "click here" for additional information.

Travel problems

With millions of electronic travel reservations being made daily, it's inevitable that someone will have a problem with their electronic airline ticket upon arrival at the airport.

Should this happen, please don't panic. Simply look on the E-ticket or airline reservation itinerary for the contract ticket office phone number. If the reservation was made through ARPC's Omega World Travel Office, reservists should call (800) 525-0102, Ext. 71326, or (303) 676-5850, Monday through Friday between 7:30 a.m.

and 4 p.m., MST. Omega also has a manned 24-hour emergency reservation center available at (800) 285-6342.

When using the emergency number, reservists must provide the identification code 1LQ and identify themselves as an IMA/TDY traveler. The after hours office will make a reservation with a copy of the travel orders or government charge card.

Reservists should not use their government charge card to purchase a ticket directly from the airline should a problem with the E-ticket occur. The commercial airlines have the reservation in their computer, but some do not have the government fare. Electronic airline tickets purchased directly from the airlines could cost up to five times the government rate.

According to the Joint Federal Travel Regulation, the member is reimbursed for airline tickets purchased at the government fare. If the government credit card is used to purchase a commercial ticket, the member is still obligated for their government credit card bill and must deal directly with the commercial airlines to seek a refund of the difference.

For other flight problems, such as delays and cancelled flights, reservists should work with the airlines for another flight with no monetary obligations.

Physical exam locations

IMAs and participating individual ready reservists have a few options available to them when they are notified they are due a physical examination. The ARPC medical staff suggests two methods for reservists to locate the most suitable medical treatment facility to conduct the exam.

First, the January 2001 special issue of *Airman Magazine*, titled "The Book 2001," lists all major and minor active Air Force, Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve base facilities.

It includes major commands, commercial and DSN telephone numbers, size and location. For additional information it suggests consulting the Air Force address directory <http://afdir.hq.af.mil/AFDIR/search.cfm>. All reservists were mailed this edition in early January.

Another source of locating the closest medical treatment facility is found on the ARPC Web site at www.arpc.org, under

"Health Services." Simply click on "SGP Physical Standards and Medical Records" and then "Locating a Military Treatment Facility."

After selecting a medical treatment facility, reservists should call that facility to schedule an appointment. ARPC/SG has simplified scheduling by allowing reservists the entire fiscal year to get their physical. Notices of physical exam requirements are sent out each September for the following fiscal year. They recommend reservists schedule their exams during their annual tour or while performing an IDT.

If questioned by the medical treatment facility concerning eligibility for an exam, reservists should mention the letter of authorization they received from ARPC/SG. Upon completion of the exam, the medical treatment facility will forward the physical exam to ARPC/SG. If the paperwork is not received within 90 days of the exam, ARPC/SG will notify the reservist to follow up with the medical treatment facility.

Capitol Hill Fellowship Program

The Office of the Air Force Reserve, HQ USAF/REI, is now accepting applications for the Capitol Hill Fellowship Program.

The program gives participants the opportunity to serve on the staff of a member of Congress for one year while earning Intermediate Service School in-residence credit. Majors and major selects are eligible to apply. Applications are due to REI by April 6. For more information, visit www.re.hq.af.mil/rei or call DSN 223-2452 or (703) 693-2452.

New rental car policy

Reservists are now required to obtain rental cars for official use through a contracted ticket office (CTO), or a traffic office (TO), when available.

Travelers disregarding rental car arrangements made by a TO or CTO may be required to provide justification for additional rental car costs before reimbursement is allowed.

This change is due to a revision in the Joint Federal Travel Regulation, section U3415, effective April 1, 2001.

See **BRIEFS**, Page 5

Chaplain news

Conference focuses on mission

by Chaplain (1st Lt.) Myrtle Bowen
Dover AFB

Keeping the U.S. Air Force Chaplain Service mission of "Providing Air Force members and families the opportunity for the free exercise of religion," at the forefront, the Dover AFB, Del., Reserve chapel staff recently hosted a leadership conference.

With participants including Brig. Gen. David Webb, mobilization assistant to the chief, U. S. Air Force Chaplain Service, the staff created an all-inclusive forum during which active, Reserve and eligible family members gave input, suggestions, and comments about the Reserve chapel program. Wanting renewal for the coming years, the challenge was to poll segments of the Dover community to gain insight into the chaplaincy's future mission.

First among the speakers was Patti Solo, wife of the 436th Operations Group commander; Belinda Scott, wife of the command chief master sergeant; and Cindy Desilet, wife of the Dover First Sergeants Council president.

Understanding people make the mission happen, all three agreed that programs needed to be geared toward the needs of families, spouses and, especially, the growing number of teenagers.

Taking advantage of the opportunity, the women offered a few recommendations. They suggested that the chapel staff organize programs to help prepare teenagers for life. They also recommended that the staff offer spiritual retreat opportunities for both single and married military members.

Understanding the Reserve's role in the Total Force, active duty members were also given the chance to provide valuable feedback and information. Invited to represent this part of the community was Lt. Michael Lyle, sortie generation assistant flight commander, and MSgt. John Moore, Airmen Leadership School instructor.

In bringing their concerns to the forefront, they emphasized the need to focus on airmen between the ages of 18 and 30. In highlighting this group of young men and women, boredom was noted as the biggest problem for single airmen in that age group.

Recognizing the significant role played

POC: HQ ARPC/HC
Chaplain (Maj.) Brett Oxman
(800) 525-0102, Ext. 71241
DSN: 926-6480
Comm: (303) 676-6480
E-mail: brett.oxman@arpc.denver.af.mil
Address: 6760 E. Irvington Pl. #5100
Denver, Colo., 80280-5100

by senior leadership, conference organizers sought the views of leadership representatives Col. Mark Solo, 436th Operations Group commander, and CMSgt. Mike Mendoza, security forces manager.

According to Solo and Mendoza, the efforts already put forth by the chapel staff deserve thanks and applause. When looking to the future, they emphasized the need for continued support at all levels and with a combined voice asked chapel staffs to be a constant "visible reminder of the Holy."

As leaders within the organization, Solo and Mendoza not only asked for multi-level support, but invited the senior chaplain, or a representative, to attend commander's call as well as weekly staff meetings.

Filling two full days of communication, performance reports, mentoring and fellowship, the conference proved extremely valuable for not only the Dover community, but for all Air Force communities as the spiritual needs of today's Air Force transcend base and mission.

For more information on chapel programs, call Rabbi Brett Oxman, assistant chief, professional division, directorate of chaplain individual Reserve programs, HQ Air Reserve Personnel Center, at (800) 525-0102, Ext. 71241, or DSN 926-6480 or e-mail at brett.oxman@arpc.denver.af.mil.

BRIEFS from Page 4

Mileage rate change

Effective Jan. 22, mileage rates increased as follows:

- ❖ Privately owned automobile—34.5 cents per mile;
- ❖ Privately owned airplane—96.5 cents per mile; and
- ❖ Privately owned motorcycle—27.5 cents per mile.

Reserve council seeks members

WASHINGTON - Active, Guard and Reserve members, unit reservists, and individual mobilization augmentees in any Air Force specialty and pay grade have until April 9 to apply for membership on the Air Force Association Reserve Council.

Council members serve for two years and

develop AFA policy recommendations on quality of life, equipment modernization and military construction issues affecting Air Force Reserve Command and reservists. Their responsibilities include soliciting concerns - such as pay, benefit and training issues - from their constituency for submission to the council.

The council meets about four times a year, usually in February, May, September and December, often in conjunction with AFA Symposium events, so members may be required to wear service dress and mess dress uniforms for certain functions. Reservists attend these meetings on orders, and the unit or agency of assignment is responsible for paying for the temporary duty trips.

Interested people may apply through their wing commander, or equivalent, with a letter of endorsement indicating the applicant

is available to perform duties. The letter needs to contain the following statement: "I understand the (unit of assignment for AGRs and unit reservists) or (major command/program manager for IMAs) is responsible for funding all TDYs required for membership on this council."

Other requirements are:

- ☐ A cover letter from the member;
- ☐ A resume of military and civilian experience;
- ☐ Copies of the last five performance reports;
- ☐ A current personnel data report; and
- ☐ A full-length, ¾ turn pose photo in service dress uniform. The photo may be a color or black-and-white print, or a Polaroid.

The mailing address is: HQ USAF/REI,

See **BRIEFS**, Page 6

Legal news

by CMSgt. Deborah Fischer
ARPC Office of the Staff Judge Advocate

New Reserve JA writing award

The Judge Advocate General approved the creation of a new award to recognize Reserve judge advocates who publish articles on military law. This award honors retired Air Force Maj. Gen. Walter Reed, who was The Judge Advocate General of the Air Force during the late 1970s. While on active duty, Reed published several articles about military law. Upon his retirement, he became the Dean of the University of South Dakota Law School.

The Reed Award is presented to the Category A or Category B Reserve judge advocate whose published work best contributed to an enhanced understanding of military law. It is presented every year at the Annual Survey of the Law.

Eligible works include books, treatises, monographs and articles authored in either military or civilian legal publications that were published during the two calendar years that precede the year in which the nomination is submitted.

The award recognizes legal writing that is substantively insightful and technically proficient. An award plaque recognizing the winner will be displayed at the Air Force Judge Advocate General School at Maxwell AFB, Ala. The selected officer will receive an award certificate.

Nominations for the award are submitted by the reservist's supervisor to HQ USAF/JAX, through the Staff Judge Advocates of any intermediate commands, in a narrative military letter of no more than three pages. Nomination packages should be forwarded annually by Sept. 1 in a plain folder; binders, plastic page covers, staples, paper clips, or any other binding should not be used.

Packages should indicate when and where the written work was published and reflect how that work contributed to an enhanced understanding of military law.

The nomination package should consist of these items in this order:

- ☒ The nomination letter;
- ☒ A proposed citation (one double spaced, typewritten page) listing details about the written work and when and where it was published;
- ☒ A one-page narrative biographical sketch;
- ☒ A complete set of officer performance reports; and
- ☒ A complete copy of the published book, treatise, monograph or article.

Rental vehicles through CTO

Authorized rental vehicles *must* be obtained through a Government Contracted Ticket Office, or GCTO, effective April 1.

Please note, the rental vehicle must still be justified and approved by HQ ARPC prior to the tour to ensure reimbursement.

PME information

IMAs should contact the ARPC military training division, or HQ ARPC/DPAT, to enroll in Professional Military Education, or PME, correspondence courses or for any military education information at DSN 926-6396 or (800)525-0102, Ext. 71330.

It is the reservist's responsibility to ensure their records are current, including completion of PME. It may mean the difference when records meet the Quality Review Panel or promotion board.

A copy of the completion certificate should be forwarded to HQ ARPC/DPAT, 6760 E. Irvington Pl #2700, Denver CO 80280-2700.

Annual tour requests

To meet the new annual tour request deadline (see Page 1), all IMA judge advocates and paralegals must submit their requests to HQ ARPC/JA by May 1.

POC: HQ ARPC/JA

CMSgt. Deborah Fischer

(800) 525-0102, Ext. 71251

DSN: 926-6494

Comm: (303) 676-6494

E-mail: arpc.ja@arpc.denver.af.mil

Address: 6760 E. Irvington Pl. #5200
Denver, CO 80280-5200

BRIEFS from Page 5

1150 Air Force Pentagon, Washington, DC 20330-1150.

Applicants will learn in June if they have or have not been selected.

SMSgt. Troy McIntosh of the Office of Air Force Reserve's Policy Integration Directorate in the Pentagon has more information at DSN 223-2452 or (703) 693-2452. (AFRC News Service)

McClellan transferring functions

McClellan AFB, Calif., will cease all personnel actions April 2 and transfer these functions to Travis AFB, Calif.

Identification cards, Servicemembers Group Life Insurance, Emergency Data Cards (DD Forms 93) and re-enlistment functions will be handled by the military

personnel flight at Travis in Fairfield, Calif. The Travis MPF will be open from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Friday.

The customer service section can be reached at (707) 424-2276 or DSN 837-2276. The Base IMA Administrator, SMSgt. Michelle Charleville, can be reached at (707) 424-3895 or DSN 837-3895.

Maximum retirement points

The fiscal 2001 National Defense Authorization Act provisions signed into law Oct. 30 increased the maximum Reserve points creditable toward retirement from 75 to 90 in any one year of service.

Points are earned by completing periods and Extension Course Institute, or ECI, courses. The 15 membership points, which

are awarded annually awarded to members for maintaining active Reserve status, are also included.

The law does not contain retroactive or grandfathering provisions, thus it doesn't affect Air Reserve Component members whose retention/retirement, or R/R, year ended prior to Oct. 30, 2000.

However, it immediately affected Air National Guard and Reserve members who earned more than 75 Reserve points in any R/R year that ended on or after Oct. 30, 2000.

The immediate effect to a reservist is the opportunity to earn up to 15 additional points toward their "Total Retirement Points" per R/R year. Potentially, a reservist can accumulate up to 300 additional points during a 20-year career.

Career management news

RSSB applications accepted

IMA applications are now being accepted for the August 2001 Reserve School Selection Board, or RSSB. All applications must be processed through the applicant's rater, to the IMA program manager's office and arrive at HQ ARPC/DPAT by Aug. 1.

Courses and grade eligibility follow:

□ **Reserve Components National Security Course**, held in February 2002, for lieutenant colonels and colonels;

□ **National Security Decision Making**, January 2002, majors through colonels;

□ **Reserve Officer Policy and Strategy**, April 2002, majors through colonels; and

□ **USAF Senior NCO Academy**, two sessions, for master sergeants and senior master sergeants.

Members apply using ARPC Form 27, Application for Professional Military Development Courses, which can be obtained from IMA program managers or the ARPC Web site at www.arpc.org.

For more information, contact TSgt. Charles Benson or Orlando Medina at DSN 926-6396 or (800) 525-0102, Ext. 71330.

Civilian Skills Data Bank

One of the vital services Headquarters Air Reserve Personnel Center provides is cataloging specialized skills of Air Force reservists in the Civilian Skills Data Bank, or CSDB. All reserve components are required to report civilian occupational skills of all reservists to the Department of Defense.

This unique data bank benefits reservists and assist the DoD in meeting specialized manpower requirements in both peacetime and contingency scenarios. This database benefits reservists by allowing increased participation for pay and/or points while benefiting the DoD by potentially decreasing contractor costs.

Here's how it works. If an agency requires personnel with specialized skills for a specific project, HQ ARPC can readily identify personnel with these skills and furnish that information to the requester. The requesting agency would then contact qualified reservists for their assistance.

Reservists may perform voluntary Military Personnel Appropriation, or MPA, mandays if they are an IMA. Participating individual ready reservists, or PIRR, members may perform inactive duty training, or IDT (non-pay/points), or MPA mandays.

HQ ARPC recently mailed information pertaining to the CSDB and an initial entry form to all IMAs. Reservists who haven't received this information or did not complete and return the CSDB initial entry form may complete the form on the ARPC Web site at www.arpc.org/director/da/DPABB/dpabbframe.htm.

Reservists who change their profession, employer or acquire new skills should contact their program manager or the HQ ARPC career opportunities branch to update their entry. The career opportunities branch can be reached at (800) 525-0102, Ext. 71333, or DSN 926-6408 or E-mail arpc.dpabdl@arpc.denver.af.mil.

PME disenrollment restrictions

As of Jan. 15, students disenrolled from Enlisted Professional Military Education, or EPME, distance learning programs for non-participation (enrollment expiration prior to course completion) will incur a one-year enrollment restriction.

This is a change from the previous six-month enrollment restriction for non-participation disenrollment. Students serving an imposed six-month restriction at the time of this change are not affected. Students disenrolled for course failure and those who voluntarily disenroll will continue to incur a six-month restriction.

This change aligns distance learning restrictions with student releases and restriction policies currently used in resident EPME programs. Additionally, the Air Force Institute for Advanced Distributed Learning, or AFIADL, will reflect these changes in the EPME eligibility criteria in their course catalog.

The AFIADL course catalog, which is the definitive guidance for all EPME distance-learning programs, is available at http://www.maxwell.af.mil/au/afiadl/curriculum/catalog/cattoc_fr.htm.

AEF utilization

IMAs continue to step up in support of Aerospace Expeditionary Force, or AEF, operations to assist active duty and Reserve units in their participation in the Expeditionary Aerospace Force, or EAF.

As stated by Gen. Michael Ryan, Air Force Chief of Staff, "The first year of deployments under the AEF schedule produced many successes, along with some anticipated challenges. We made great progress in provid-

ing predictability and stability of our forces – notification times have significantly increased, shortfalls have decreased and a wide array of training templates are now available to prepare deploying forces.

"We expect that some commanders will experience base support issues when supporting an AEF rotation. However, in the future our goal is to tap a unit hard only once and no more than twice per AEF cycle. During the peak rotation, wings may have to investigate other base support options, such as Individual Mobilization Augmentees (IMAs) or contracting."

When individuals or an entire unit are tasked to deploy for a normal 90-day AEF rotation, the mission still continues back at homestation bases. This homestation support mission is a perfect fit for IMAs. Although it seems that it is not direct support of AEF, it most definitely is. Other vital "reachback" missions such as space and intelligence support, while performed at CONUS bases, are also in direct support of theater based AEF operations.

More and more, IMAs are also being used as "forward deployers" and provide much needed relief to AEF tasked active duty and Reserve units. At a minimum, IMAs will be expected to deploy for a minimum of 15 days, but can provide up to a maximum of 139 days within a fiscal year. All requests to deploy in support of an AEF tasking must be coordinated with a members' IMA program manager.

For more information on volunteering to support AEF operations, either homestation or deployed, IMAs should contact their program manager or SSgt. Shauna Walker at 1-800-525-0102, Ext. 71206, or e-mail shauna.walker@arpc.denver.af.mil.

ARPC welcome packages

The ARPC assignments branch forwards welcome packages to individual reservists assigned as IMAs or to points only programs.

Upon notification of the assignment action – i.e. member is coming from active duty, the Guard, Reserve, or another military component – the member's address is verified and a welcome package containing information on participation, mobilization, performance reports and pay forms is mailed.

IMAs who have not received a package within 30 days of assignment should call 1-800-525-0102, Ext. 71292, or e-mail arpc.dpapdl@arpc.denver.af.mil.

Medical profession news

Medical officer IMA promotions

(Editor's note: This is the first of a two-part series on individual mobilization augmentee, or IMA, health professions promotions. The May/June issue article focuses on medical enlisted IMA promotions.)

by Col. Linda McHale
Health services director

I commonly receive questions about medical IMA promotions. I would like to share some observations and thoughts concerning this area.

By analyzing the statistics, it is apparent that IMAs greatly improve their chances of getting promoted if they complete the Professional Military Education commensurate with their rank. That means, if competing for promotion to major, IMAs should have completed Squadron Officer School; for lieutenant colonel, Air Command and Staff College; and for colonel, Air War College.

Some would say that having a "definitely promote" on their Promotion Recommendation Form, or PRF, is equally important. While this may be true, many senior raters will not give a "DP" or allow a position vacancy nomination unless the appropriate PME is completed. A "DP" cannot overcome a weak or incomplete record. Board members will see through this tactic.

In addition to the PME and getting a "DP," many young officers now come to the military with a master's degree. Reservists who only hold a bachelor's degree or a nursing certificate will fall short of the norm, especially as they move up in rank. Along the same line, once IMAs are board certified in their AFSC, they should be sure to get the "M" prefix added to their AFSC. Reservists can do this by having their unit verify that they meet the requirements outlined in AFMAN 36-2105, *Officer Classification Manual*, and send the information to HQ ARPC/SG.

IMAs who are promoted have very strong officer performance reports, or OPRs, and PRFs, with fact-based quantifiable information rather than general statements that simply restate their job description/duties. The limited amount of space available on an OPR or PRF must

POC: HQ ARPC/SG
MSgt. Delores Sepulveda
(800) 525-0102, Ext. 71232
DSN: 926-7158
Comm: (303) 676-7158
E-mail: delores.sepulveda@arpc.denver.af.mil
Address: 6760 E. Irvington Pl. #7000
Denver, CO 80280-7000

clearly tell the board members that you must be promoted. The last lines of both the rater and the rater's rater blocks are the final opportunity to state the member's potential in the Air Force. Typically, there should be a recommendation for increased responsibility (i.e., next level job) and a recommendation for PME (i.e., Senior Service School in-residence). When the last lines are vague or weak, it sends a loud message to the board members.

Take a look at decorations. If it's been three years since the last one closed out, IMAs should remind their supervisors that it's time to be considered. Consider submitting a draft. Obviously, this is based on the assumption that the member is participating, earning good years, and doing outstanding work for their unit of attachment. It's important to note that most IMAs perform more than the minimum number of points required.

A letter to the president of the promotion board should only be submitted when appropriate. IMAs should do so when they need to explain a gap or something about the circumstances that the board members need to know. A short, positive letter which informs the board about education or PME progress, and job changes

or professional achievements not reflected in the OPR, are highly encouraged. Follow the guidelines in AFI 36-2504, *Officer Promotion, Continuation and Selective Early Removal in the Reserve of the Air Force*.

Finally, be sure all personnel data is current before the board convenes. IMAs should conduct a complete review by mail, phone, or in person. Some items, like education, must be updated by other agencies (i.e., Air Force Institute of Technology), so be sure to have corrections made early.

IMAs with specific questions about the medical aspects of their career should contact HQ ARPC/SG at (800) 525-0102, Ext. 71232, or DSN 926-7158. IMAs not selected for promotion can receive non-select counseling from Lt. Col. Gary Smith by calling (800) 525-0102, Ext. 71283, or DSN 926-7193. Everyone has heard about someone being promoted without a DP, PME, or a master's degree, but this is not the norm. The key to being promoted is being proactive. IMAs can make themselves more competitive by taking care of the things that are under their control.

The Air Reserve Personnel Update is a funded Class II U.S. Air Force newspaper published for individual Reservists. It is a product of HQARPC. Opinions expressed do not necessarily represent those of the U.S. Air Force or the Air Force Reserve Command. Local reproduction is authorized and encouraged. For information, call DSN 926-6515, (303) 676-6515; (800) 525-0102, Ext. 71217 or e-mail devin.fisher@arpc.denver.af.mil. Send address changes to HQ ARPC/DPSSA/B, 6760 East Irvington Place #4000, Denver, Colo., 80280-4000.

Col. Katie Counts
Commander, ARPC

Maj. Thomas Deall
Chief of public affairs

SSgt. Devin Fisher
Editor

Cindy Dewey
Staff writer

BULK RATE
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
DEF FIN & ACCT SVC
DENVER CENTER

HQARPC/PA
6760 E. IRVINGTON PL. # 1010
DENVER, CO 80280-1010

OFFICIAL BUSINESS